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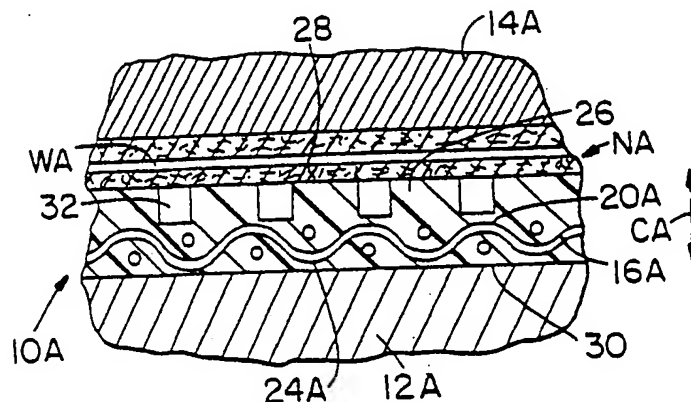
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(54) A bearing blanket for an extended nip press.

(57) A bearing blanket (10A) is disclosed which extends through an extended nip (NA) defined by a shoe (12A) and a cooperating backing roll (14A) for pressing water from a formed web (WA). The blanket (10A) includes a woven-base fabric (16A) which defines a web-side (20A) and a shoe-side (24A), and a single liquid impervious urethane layer (26) which is applied to the web-side (20A) of the base fabric (16A) such that the urethane layer (26) thoroughly penetrates into and through the base fabric (16A). The arrangement is such that when the urethane

layer (26) is cured, the urethane layer (26) defines a web face (28) and a shoe face (30). The web face (28) is spaced relative to the web-side (20A), with the web face, (28) defining a plurality of vents (32) for conveying water pressed from the web (WA) away from the extended nip (NA). The shoe face (30) is substantially co-planar with the shoe-side (24A) of the base fabric (16A) such that the shoe face (30) is relatively smooth for cooperating with and moving relative to the shoe (12A).

FIG. 2



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